Council of the European Union
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 ERAC-SFIC

COMMUNICATION

NOTICE OF MEETING AND PROVISIONAL AGENDA

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Subject: European Research Area and Innovation Committee (ERAC) - Strategic Forum for International S&T Cooperation (SFIC)
Date: 18 December 2019
Time: 10.00
Venue: COUNCIL
       JUSTUS LIPSIUS BUILDING
       Rue de la Loi 175, 1048 BRUSSELS

1. Adoption of the agenda

2. Tour de table
   – presentation of recent INCO developments

   Delegations are invited to provide written input before and after the meeting.
3. **Future of SFIC**
   - Adoption of the final report of the Task Force on visibility/communication
   - Presentation by the Task Force of a draft SFIC presentation

4. **SFIC activities in the context of the ERA**
   - Report back from the ERAC Plenary, including the current status of the work of the ERAC Ad-Hoc Group on the Future of the ERA and the next steps in the process

5. **SFIC Work Programme 2019-2020**
   - Discussion on the current status of the SFIC Work Programme 2019-2020 (planning vs. implementation) and on the need to revise/update it

6. **Exchange with key Stakeholders on the international dimension of the ERA**
   Stakeholders to be invited: European Association of Research and Technology Organisations (EARTO), European University Association (EUA), League of European Research Universities (LERU), Science Europe, European Network of Innovation Agencies (TAFTI) and EUREKA

7. **Information on the Mutual Learning Exercise**
   - Information by the FR delegation

8. **Working Groups**
   a) Benchmarking Working Group
   - Adoption of the final report
   - Presentation of the Draft SFIC Opinion and its adoption
b) China
– Information by the participants of the China Workshop
– Information by the European Commission
– Discussion on the relevance for further SFIC work and the next steps

c) Africa
– Endorsement of the draft Concept Note and discussion on the next steps
– Joint presentation by the Commission and the SFIC Africa Group on current activities

d) Science Diplomacy
– Presentation of recent activities
– Endorsement of the draft Concept Note and discussion on the next steps

9. Any other business

NB: Council documents are available on Delegates Portal. Room attendants will provide copies on request at the earliest opportunity.